Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend claims 1-19 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An improved enclosed power clamp having a linear actuator and a clamp arm comprising:

housing means having at least two high-strength planar plates spaced from one another enclosed within two lower-strength members, the at least two high-strength planar plates for defining an enclosed path including an elongate guide slot, and a pair of coaxial apertures extending perpendicular to and offset from said elongate guide slot;

internal means operably engageable with said elongate guide slot within said housing means for moving along said enclosed path between first and second end limits of travel; and

means for securing said plates together to form a unitary structure.

2. (Currently Amended) The improved clamp of claim 1 further comprising:

the at least two high-strength planar plates including at least two replaceable wear blocks for operably engaging the internal means when in one of the first and second end limits of travel.

3. (Currently Amended) The improved clamp of claim 1 further comprising:

the at least two high-strength planar plates formed of steel; and

the two lower-strength members formed of aluminum.

4. (Currently Amended) The improved clamp of claim 1 further comprising:

the at least two high-strength planar plates each including a plate portion and a beam portion operably engaged with respect to each other, the plate portion having a top surface and the beam portion having a bottom surface, the elongate guide slot formed at least in part by the top surface of the plate portion and the bottom surface of the beam portion.

5. (Currently Amended) The improved clamp of claim 1 further comprising:

the elongate guide slot forming a closed loop.

6. (Currently Amended) The improved clamp of claim 1 further comprising:

the internal means including at least one pin slidingly engageable with the elongate guide slot.

7. (Currently Amended) The improved clamp of claim 1 further comprising:

the internal means including means for rotating ~~a~~ said clamping arm of the enclosed power clamp.

8. (Currently Amended) The improved clamp of claim 1 further comprising:

the securing means including at least one pin engageable with the at least

two high-strength planar plates and the two lower-strength members.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing an enclosed power clamp having a linear actuator and a clamp arm comprising the steps of:

assembling at least two high-strength planar plates spaced from one another enclosed within two lower-strength members to form housing means, the at least two high-strength planar plates for defining an enclosed path including an elongate guide slot, and a pair of coaxial apertures extending perpendicular to and offset from said elongate guide slot;

operably engaging internal means with said elongate slot within said housing means for moving along said enclosed path between first and second end limits of travel; and

securing said housing means together to form a unitary structure.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of:

accommodating wear when the internal means is in one of the first and second end limits of travel, wherein the at least two high-strength planar plates include at least two replaceable wear blocks for operably engaging the internal means.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of:

operably engaging a clamping pin with ~~to~~ the pair of coaxial apertures, the

clamping pin engageable with ~~a clamping~~ said clamp arm external to the housing means.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9 wherein the assembling step further comprises the step of:

engaging a plate portion having a top surface to a beam portion having a bottom surface to form at least one of the high-strength planar plates, the top surface and bottom surface defining at least part of the elongate slot.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9 wherein the engaging step further ~~comprising~~ comprises the step of:

mounting linkage means with respect to the elongate guide slot and disposed between the at least two high-strength planar plates, the linkage means operable to engage ~~a clamping~~ said clamp arm of the enclosed power clamp.

14. (Currently Amended) An improved enclosed power clamp having a linear actuator and a clamp arm manufactured according to the method of claim ~~21~~ 9 comprising:

housing means having at least two high-strength planar plates spaced from one another enclosed within two lower-strength members, the at least two high-strength planar plates for defining an enclosed path including an elongate guide slot, and a pair of coaxial apertures extending perpendicular to and offset from

said elongate guide slot;

internal means operably engageable with said elongate guide slot within said housing means for moving along said enclosed path between first and second end limits of travel; and

means for securing said housing means together to form a unitary structure.

15. (Currently Amended) The improved clamp of claim 14 further comprising:

the at least two high-strength planar plates including at least two replaceable wear blocks for operably engaging the internal means when in one of the first and second end limits of travel.

16. (Currently Amended) The improved clamp of claim 14 further comprising:

the at least two high-strength planar plates each including a plate portion and a beam portion operably engaged with respect to each other, the plate portion having a top surface and the beam portion having a bottom surface, the elongate guide slot formed at least in part by the top surface of the plate portion and the bottom surface of the beam portion.

17. (Currently Amended) The improved clamp of claim 14 further comprising:

the elongate guide slot forming a closed loop.

18. (Currently Amended) The improved clamp of claim 14 further comprising:

the securing means including at least one pin engageable with the at least two high-strength planar plates and the two lower-strength members.

19. (Currently Amended) In an improved enclosed power clamp having a housing enclosing a slide block connectible to a prime mover for driving the slide block in movement between first and second end limits of travel along an elongate guide slot formed in the housing, link means connected to the slide block at one end and a pivot pin at another end for converting linear movement of the slide block into rotational movement of the pivot pin, the pivot pin rotatably supported in the housing and connectible to a clamp arm for driving the clamp arm between a clamped position and a released position, the improvement comprising:

said housing formed of at least two high-strength planar plates spaced from one another and enclosed within two low-strength members, wherein the at least two high-strength planar plates define an enclosed path for receiving said slide block, each plate having first and second major opposite parallel side surfaces spaced from one another with at least one transverse edge surface extending between said first and second side surfaces defining an outer perimeter of each plate, each of said two planar plates having at least one transverse surface substantially perpendicular to at least one of said first and second side surfaces to form at least a portion of said elongate guide slot; and

means for securing said plates to one another to form a unitary structure.

20. (Original) The improvement of claim 19 further comprising:

the at least two high-strength planar plates including at least two replaceable wear blocks for operably engaging the internal means when in one of the first and second end limits of travel.